

ABSTRACT  
TRAINING APPARATUS

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This invention relates to a A training apparatus, and in particular to an apparatus is usable as a training aid for sports such as football (American "soccer"), basketball, field hockey etc. According to the invention ~~t~~There is provided a training apparatus comprising a number of substantially rigid targets arranged around a training area. The targets may be separated, and a retaining device means provided therebetween. The targets may be arranged on a base member, and be movable relative to the base member. The targets may be in the form of mannequins simulating teammates and possibly also opponents of the trainee.

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In the Description:

Please amend the Description as follows:

On page 1, line 5 (paragraph 0001), please amend as follows:

A2

**[0001]** This invention relates to a training apparatus, and in particular to an apparatus usable as a training aid for sports such as football (American "soccer"), basketball, field hockey etc.

On page 1, lines 19 - 20 (paragraph 0003), please amend as follows:

A3

**[0003]** The training apparatus is likely to find its greatest utility in relation to team sports (such as football (American "soccer"), basketball, or field hockey, for example) in which a ball may be passed to a team mate in any direction, the training apparatus simulating a player surrounded by teammates to whom he could pass the ball (and perhaps also some opponents to whom he should not pass the ball).

*AP*

On page 2, line 25 (paragraph 0011), please amend as follows:

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**[0011]** 4. The targets can be sized and/or shaped according to requirements. For example, if the training apparatus is used for football training (American "soccer" training) the targets can be shaped as mannequins. The targets (mannequins) can be available in a number of sizes closely to match the size of the trainee and better simulate the trainee being surrounded by teammates (and opponents).

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*AP*

On page 4, lines 20, 32 (paragraph 0025), please amend as follows:

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**[0025]** It is intended for football training (American "soccer" training) that the trainee will be requested to pass the ball along the ground, and the mannequin's "feet" are joined together at 28. Accordingly, the trainee has a relatively large area at ground level against which the ball can be struck. The rebound is therefore more likely to be predictable if the ball is struck along the ground. Conversely, the mannequins "legs" 30 are separated, and the target area for a predictable rebound is much smaller, requiring greater accuracy on the part of the trainee (or alternatively stated the rebound from the mannequin's "legs" 30 is more difficult to predict). This replicates the situation in a game of football (American "soccer") in which a pass to a teammate's feet is readily controllable and to be encouraged, whereas a pass to his knees or other part of his legs is less controllable and is to be discouraged.

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